SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday, June 15, 2011 Brooks House – 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

School Committee
David Reif
Gregory Berthiaume
Michael Mackin
Donna White
Colleen Shapiro – arrived at 7:19 p.m.

Superintendent Loxi Jo Calmes

Recording Secretary
Mary Landi

Student Representative

Guests

- * <u>Call to Order</u> 7:02 p.m.
- * Chairman's Report
- * Review and Approve Minutes
 - May 25, 2011 Regular Session Minutes approved by Dr. Reif.
 - May 25, 2011 Executive Session Minutes approved by Dr. Reif.
 - June 1, 2011 Regular Session Minutes approved by Dr. Reif.
- * <u>Review and Approve Warrants</u> There were several line item transfers from Mr. Londa to move funds to pay for the lighting project at TCP and replacement of bleachers at the primary school in the gym. Unitil will pay for \$33,000 through a grant and we would be responsible for \$14,000. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval.
- * Superintendent's Report
 - We had a wonderful graduation week. The superintendent thanked everyone for their participation. Fitchburg State University proved to be a great venue for the event.
 - The LHS National Honor Society induction took place last night.
 - End-of-year celebrations and exhibits are happening this week and next.
- * <u>Public Comment</u> None.
- * New Business

Action

- a. School Handbooks All handbooks were reviewed and changed were highlighted with some revisions still needed.
 - Primary School Paragraph around RIT needs to be clarified; five half days need to be clarified.
 - TCP There was a discussion on the new paragraph that addresses cafeteria rules.
 - THMS Changes were highlighted.
 - LHS Changes include changes to MASSCORE; conversion from numeric to letter grades; update on Alert Now; library use; cell phone use.

- Superintendent Calmes recommended moving forward with the handbooks. Mr. Mackin moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the superintendent's recommendation. Vote: unanimous.
- b. Technology Plan Update Superintendent Calmes reviewed the goals of the technology plan and reported on the progress we have made to date, as well as where we are going. The plan is for years 2011-2013. Superintendent Calmes recommended approval. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Mr. Mackin seconded a motion to approve the plan as written. Vote: unanimous.
- c. FY12 Meeting Calendar and Topics The committee members reviewed their calendars. A decision was made to meet on July 11 at Brooks House to discuss reconfiguring the school buildings. The committee discussed agenda items for several of the meetings. August meetings will be on the first and third Wednesday on the month. The school committee will look at revenues and an override when putting together its goals.

* Old Business

Action

- a. FY12 Budget Superintendent Calmes noted some of the highlights: the .6 special education teacher at the high school will be changed to full time. We will be down one teacher when all is said and done. The necessary reductions and fee increases were reviewed, including parking fees, athletic reductions, and one retirement and two lay-offs of tutors/aides. The superintendent reviewed projections of revenue streams and noted the unknowns. The meeting on July 11 will include a discussion around busing and parking fees. Hopefully we will have some definite information around the kindergarten grant by that time. The initial thought on a bus fee was \$250 per student. Dr. Berthiaume moved and Ms. Shapiro seconded a motion to accept the budget as recommended by the superintendent. The budget assumes the \$45,000 gained from parking/bus fees; it does not include freshman football. Vote: unanimous.
- * <u>Public Comment</u> Dave Matthews informed everyone of the two openings on the finance committee and urged people to get involved in their town.

* Reports

- a. Advisory Committee
- b. Finance Committee
- c. School Councils
- d. PTO
- e. Policy Sub-Committee
- f. Capital Planning Committee
- g. Health Advisory Committee
- h. PAC/SAL
- i. Regional Planning Committee Dr. Berthiaume reported the RPC will meet next Tuesday and then meet with the Board of Selectmen at 8:00p.m. The RPC sent a letter to the North Middlesex folks expressing its concerns that are non-financial. We may be splitting the cost of a consultant to do analysis around the possibility of regionalization. We have not yet agreed to split the cost. There was a discussion around the process that was taken by North Middlesex.
- j. Rep. Benson's Advisory
- 1. Other
- * Continuing Projects/Estimated Date of Completion
- * <u>Items for Future Discussion</u>
 - Workshop Sessions
 - Facilities Use Procedure
 - Civic Engagement
- * <u>Executive Session</u> M.G.L. Chapter 39, Section 23B [3] To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the government's bargaining or litigating position. At 7:59 p.m. Mr. Mackin moved and Dr. Berthiaume seconded a motion to enter into

executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and salary discussions with non-union personnel. Vote: unanimous. <u>Adjournment</u> – The meeting adjourned at the conclusion of executive session. Respectfully Submitted, Mary Landi Recording Secretary c/5/25/22/mel

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